



Welcome to the 5th Edition of the *3GS Insider*!

Want to hear more about the 3GS Project? Want to know how the new systems and processes coming to FTS might impact your life? Interested in who is on the 3GS Project Team?

Stay Tuned!

Project Status

FTS/FSS Realignment – Accenture recently completed a study of the GSA Federal Technology Service (FTS) and the GSA Federal Supply Service (FSS) to determine if duplicate functions were being performed. The outcome of the study concluded that there were duplications within some functions and resulted in realigning the FTS and FSS marketing functions.

On January 22nd, FSS representatives Chuck Popelka, Roy Chrisholm, Robin Bourne and Mark Graham met for the first time with the 3GS Team to begin discussions on business models used by FSS. The 3GS Team provided a 3GS Project Status briefing to FSS. In order to coordinate efforts between the two business lines moving forward, future meetings are planned.

GSA Senior Executive Briefing – FTS Commissioner Sandra Bates, Deputy Commissioner Charles Self, Assistant Commissioner for IT Solutions Bob Suda, and FTS CIO Jimmy Parker briefed GSA Administrator Stephen Perry and other GSA senior executives on 3GS in late January.

Spotlight

3GS Web-Based Portal – What are the most critical questions you must answer every day? How many steps does it take to respond to a Client's inquiry or locate an Industry Partner's payment status? Currently, the answer to critical business questions like these must be constructed from several sources. One of the major benefits of the Enterprise Portal for 3GS will be to unify disparate information into one interface and deliver data to you, eliminating traditional barriers to productivity. Its optimal value will be achieved as comprehensive two-way interfaces are realized over time. In other words, tasks that traditionally require navigation through multiple systems will be accomplished with only a few clicks of the mouse in one system. As a result, 3GS will provide business efficiency in the form of quicker and more accurate data!

There are a number of people working on making this web portal a reality. The Portal Team is led by: Susan Fischer (GSA) and Todd Doucet (IBM). GSA Portal Team Members include: David Griffin and Debora Hawkes (ITSS); Shelli Lopez (IT Solutions Support); Debby Ward and Sheila Bumpers (Web Design); Sharon Henry, Tom Burgin and Ron Decker (Business Reps); Bill Lisembee (TOS); Jeff Lobaugh (Veridian), and Lisa Radcliffe (Unisys – Transition Management Team).



The Portal Team held two workshops in January to define 3GS portal requirements for FTS Associates, Clients and Industry Partners. Next, the Portal Team will conduct FTS Client and Industry Partner focus group sessions to validate the developed business requirements, as well as identify others, for the web portal.

Meet the Team

In each edition of the *3GS Insider*, we profile a subset of the 3GS Project Team. The 3GS Project Team consists of two main elements, a full-time Core Team, and an Extended Team whose Members come in as guest subject matter experts. In this issue, the Finance Functional Design Team is profiled and is comprised of the following Team Members:

Michael Stocker is a Senior Project Manager with Unisys Corporation. He has extensive experience in implementing SAP systems in the public sector and manufacturing industries. He specializes in the Financial and Controlling modules of SAP.

Carrie Morgan, a member of the Unisys Team, is a Senior Systems Consultant in IBM's Federal Practice. She has 12 years of finance and accounting experience, and for the past six years has focused on SAP implementations with a concentration on the Financial and Controlling modules. Carrie's knowledge and experience will help the Finance Team design and implement SAP capabilities to meet FTS requirements.

Adam Goldberg, a Transition Agent for the Unisys Team, is a Project Director with Unisys Corporation. He has over 10 years experience in implementing JFMIP-certified financial systems at federal agencies. Adam's goal is to leverage this experience in order to help FTS develop effective and practical 3GS rollout strategies.



Spiro Papagjika has been with FTS for the past 3 years. He works with the Center for Regional Operations where he provides financial and systems support to the regions. He worked in various positions at the National Institutes of Health and Department of Transportation over a 20-year time span prior to joining FTS.

Steve Robinson has been an FTS Associate for the past 11 years. He is currently a Financial Manager with the Business Management Staff at Metro Park in Springfield, Virginia and previously a FEDSIM Project Manager. Steve holds a BA in Computer Science from Roosevelt University, Chicago and a MS in Systems Management from USC.

The Finance Team also received valuable input from Mark Sammons – Northwest/Arctic Region; Gerry Gathers – Office of the CTO, Dennis McNamara – FSC, Robin Short – Office of the FTS CFO, Penny Dredge and Karene Lagrone – both with Business Management Staff.

Frequently Asked Questions

Should I worry about system performance?

The 3GS Technical Team is taking steps to ensure system performance is consistent with industry standards and vastly improved over today's systems. Performance issues of the Internet, local LAN throughput, and desktop power are all considerations for speed of the system.

The 3GS Project Team is working with GSA to understand what the current infrastructure looks like and to estimate the impact of 3GS transactions on this network. The output from this exercise will help us design a reliable, secure, fault tolerant system that will provide superior performance.

The 3GS Project Team will use tools to effectively simulate production level loads and then monitor and tune system performance on the production system to desired levels. Enterprise System Management tools will be used to ensure that the system is performing optimally. Service Level Agreements will be put in place to offer best-in-class service as related to system availability and performance.

Questions?

If you have questions about the 3GS project, please send them to Ask3GS@gsa.gov